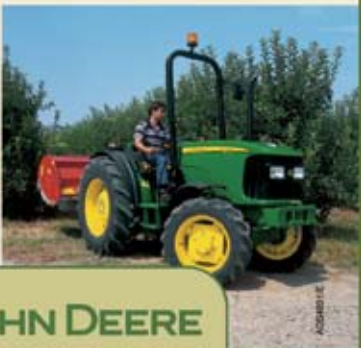
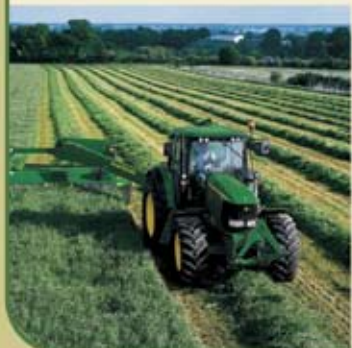
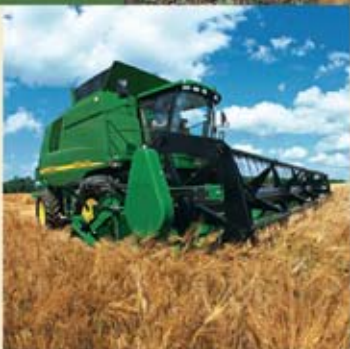




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# Briefly • Africa

## New agriculture initiatives

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA), in co-operation with the US Agency for International Development (Usaid), will develop and implement a trade enhancement programme to help Africa's raw agricultural products enter the global market. This will be done by improving the capacity of African producers to meet international plant and health requirements. USDA secretary, Mike Johanns, made this announcement during the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (Agoa) Forum in Dakar, Senegal. The Agoa serves as a framework to strengthen trade ties in agricultural goods.

A trade and investment mission will be sent to Southern Africa to seek possibilities for joint ventures, bilateral trade, and investments in the agricultural sector. The USDA is also working on a new programme to encourage investment in agricultural processing. It is also encouraging African countries to take on a more active role in global trade negotiations.

In the same Agoa forum, Zaddock Syon'goh, deputy minister of trade and industry: Kenya, stressed that agriculture is critical to African economies and that there is a need to add value to its exports. Syon'goh called on African farmers to "embrace biotechnology" to improve agricultural productivity and make farming a viable occupation. – *BioLines*

## KCC 2000 and KCC Holdings sold

Dairy company, Kenya Co-operative Creameries 2000 and KCC Holdings, have transferred their assets and business to the Kenyan Government after being paid \$US7,2 million. The plant, which is supposed to be receiving an average of 300 000 litres of milk a day, had until recently been receiving only 7 000 litres. – *Dairy Week*

## Dairy Corporation sale causes conflict

In Uganda, the botched sale of Dairy Corporation to Marlee Sampran Plc has drawn calls from members

of parliament for the prosecution of key players, as well as the impeachment of the president, who selected the Thai investor. – *Dairy Week*

## Australia impresses Africa

Australia's reputation as a source of world-class dairy exports has now spread to Africa after a visit by Dairy Australia. Australia was one of 20 nations represented at the Eastern and Southern African Dairy Association (Esada) conference. African leaders were also impressed with Australia's low-cost, high production systems. – *Dairy Week*

## Tanzanian milk production picks up

Tanzania's total milk production rose from 555 million litres to 1,18 billion litres in 2004. Unlike Ugandans and Kenyans, whose consumption is much larger, too few Tanzanians drink milk regularly. Although total production has increased, *per capita* consumption has declined.

As part of its campaign to encourage milk drinking, the company Royal Dairy Products will be distributing milk free of charge to some primary schools in Dar es Salaam. It is estimated that the new milk processing plant has an installed capacity to process 500 000 litres of milk a day, but was processing only 150 000 litres. – *Dairy Week*

## New IDF guide for dairy industries

The International Dairy Federation has published a farm-to-table approach for emerging and developed dairy countries. This comprehensive manual emphasises production and processing of high quality milk and dairy products. This publication is available free of charge at [www.fil-idf.org](http://www.fil-idf.org). – *Dairy Week*

## Ifap's committee meets in Tunis

Over 30 farm leaders participated in the 13th session of the African Farmers' Committee meeting held in Tunis, Tunisia in September. Jacques Bonou (Benin) was elected as the



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new president, with Nduati Kariuki (Kenya), Ajay Vashee (Zambia) and Mabrouk Bahri (Tunisia) as vice-presidents.

The Tunisian minister of agriculture, Mohamed Habib Haddad, officially opened the conference. Habib Haddad re-emphasised the need for farmers to speak with one another in an effort to find solutions to the many challenges they face on a daily basis. The minister outlined the constraints facing African agriculture – especially cyclical droughts that lead to chronic water shortages. Others include market access in the wake of globalisation and lack of appropriate technology to deal with the specific challenges. He also called on farmers to modernise agriculture and treat farming as a business in order to get the rural population out of poverty. Habib Haddad called on the Ifap African Committee to be the voice of African farmers on all issues. – *World Farmer*

### Farmers' Forum planned for 2006

Progress was made in collaboration with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad) towards the preparation of the farmers' forum to be held in February 2006. National consultations will start with a few countries. Ifad will collaborate with Agri-cord to share information on research projects on profiling of farmer organisations, as well as on profiling as a tool to help members and development partners in capacity building efforts.

The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (Fara) confirmed their involvement of farmers in the design of their projects. The forum also confirmed their commitment to use the existing structures of farmers' organisations. There was total agreement on the need to continue Ifap-DCC capacity building projects to enhance farmers' knowledge and economic base. There is an urgent need for farmers to speak for themselves during the on-going trade negotiations at the WTO and the Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU. – *World Farmer DMA*



### What do we do?

**FarmVision's core business is to advise farmers and agribusinesses on how to optimise production, from a technical and economic perspective, in an environmentally sustainable manner. FarmVision also provides consultancy services to private and public institutions.**

### Our consultancy services include the following:

1. Agricultural advice: pasture science, animal science and agricultural economics
2. Planning and implementing agricultural projects, such as dairy turnkey projects
3. Feasibility and business planning studies
4. Developing and implementing strategic planning systems
5. Emerging farmer development programmes
6. Accredited training courses for farm workers and emerging farmers.

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